



## **Animal Enhancement Activity—KS-ANM33**

### **Riparian forest buffer, terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat**

#### **Kansas Criteria for National Animal Enhancement Activity—ANM33**

1. Definition: Snags are standing dead trees, while den trees are live standing trees with a cavity in the trunk or limbs large enough to shelter wildlife.
2. A Forest Stewardship Plan (FSP) will be developed to inventory existing vegetation and to determine management of the resource. The purpose of this enhancement is to achieve streamside cover and vegetative diversity and to improve terrestrial and aquatic wildlife habitat. Through the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), a Kansas Forest Service (KFS) district forester may be requested to complete an FSP and to assist the producer with practice planning.
3. Refer to Conservation Practice Construction Specifications 666, Forest Stand Improvement, for methods to kill trees.
4. Refer to Conservation Practice Construction Specifications 660, Tree/Shrub Pruning, for methods and guidance to proper tree pruning.
5. Retain existing snags or create new snags of at least three/acre. If creating new snags, one from each of these snag groups is recommended: >20 inches diameter breast-height (DBH), 10 to 20 inches DBH, and 6 to 10 inches DBH. If snag trees are not available from a particular group, additional snag trees can be created in one of the other groups.
6. If additional trees/shrubs are needed to increase diversity, refer to Conservation Practice Construction Specifications 612, Tree/Shrub Establishment, for design assistance.
7. Refer to Kansas Forestry Technical Notes KS-9, Tree/Shrub Establishment and Maintenance Guidelines, and KS-10, Conservation Tree/Shrub Plantings Suitability Groups, Windbreak Suitability Groups, and Plantings for Kansas, for tree/shrub establishment, maintenance, and selection guidelines.
8. Refer to Conservation Practice Construction Specifications 550, Range Planting, and Kansas Biology Technical Note KS-37, Pollinator Biology and Habitat Technology, Table 2, for assistance in developing herbaceous seeding mixes.
9. Only select native, non-invasive plant materials for plantings.